

Pastoral Letter for November

Dear fellow readers

The period round the end of October and early November for me has always been the month of Remembering beginning with All Saints, All Souls, Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday and of course Guy Fawkes – ‘remember, remember the 5th of November....’. Not all famous for the right reasons. As an aside, I met my future wife for the first time on November 6th.

I went to a secondary school in Greenwich founded in 1677 by a man named John Roan. Each year we went to the local church where his name is inscribed on the list of benefactors to the Borough to honour our founder in the annual Founders Day Service. He gave the funds to education 15 boys in the Borough and today educates 1,115 students. There we sang the school song in memory of the great man and also read the reading from Ecclesiasticus, a book in the Jerusalem Bible, a copy of which was given to me by the Bishop at my Ordination. It reads ‘Let us praise illustrious men, our ancestors in their successive generations.’ And goes on to say ‘While others left no memory, and disappeared as though they had not existed’ It always struck me as I listened to the reading, who were these people who ‘disappeared’? Who were these people who left ‘no memory’? Over the years since I have come to realise that these are the people we meet every day, our parents, our family, our children, our friends, those in our neighbourhood in our community who by the way they live, encourage and inspire us. Their names aren’t emblazed in lights. These are people known to us personally and not in the public gaze.


When someone dies it is customary to say good things about their lives and rightly so but in doing so those people must have had an effect on many on their journey in this world. What will they say about us I often wonder, what will they say about me? Remembrance ought to encourage us to look at our own lives and how we live and interact with others. What do we learn from those ‘silent people’ we knew and loved? Remembrance isn’t simply looking back and having fond or inspired memories. It should be looking forward to take from those memories things that will improve our own lives and the lives of those around us. My school song ends with the question about the future. ‘What can we give her (England) for our Founder’s sake? The answer given in the next line – ‘Ourselves we give to England till John Roan shall wake.’

So, this year as we remember let us reflect on those we have loved, shared our lives with and who encouraged us, and say ‘thank you’ and to move on to fill our lives with the things and thoughts that motivated them and pray that we will bring to our world what they gave us. **David**

If you have an item for the December News Letter please contact Marian on 01622 743977 by the **24th November** at the latest

November 2022 News Letter



Sunday 6th November	Holy Communion	3rd before Advent
11.00am	Led by: Rev David Jones & Bertie Woodward	
Readings: Job 19.v23-27a, 2 Thessalonians 2 v1-5,13-17, Luke 20.v27-38		
Sunday 13th November	Remembrance Sunday	2nd before Advent
10.45am		Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner
Readings: Malachi 4 v1-2a, Luke 21 v5-19		
Sunday 20th November	Holy Communion	Christ the King
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner	
Readings: Jeremiah 23.v1-6, Colossians 1.v11- 20, Luke 23.v33-43		
Sunday 27th November	Morning Worship	First Sunday of Advent
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna Falkner	
Readings: Preacher’s Choice		
Giving Sunday in aid of Mercy Ships		


Each Sunday the 11.00am service from Coxheath will be available on zoom <http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

Contacts

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474

Church Website

To find out more information about our Benefice and five b 
Churches go to www.unitedbenefice.church

*Give all your worries to God, for he cares
for you.*

1 Peter 5v7

Diary Dates

Monday 7th November 6.45pm for 7.00pm **Beacon Men Curry Night at Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath** Cost: £8 per head including first beer/wine or soft drink. Guest Speaker: Guy Bartlett- Aviation Historian Talk – The Battle of Britain - Victory Against The Odds. This presentation examines the aircraft, pilots and tactics used to ensure victory in the skies. It offers a unique insight into the RAF and how the outcome was almost very different.

Booking forms are at the back of the church or contact Mike on 07595 428639

Saturday 12th November 10.00am – 12.00noon **Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning and Christmas Gifts Stall** A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at the Scout HQ, Westerhill Road. Admission 70p which includes free tea/coffee and biscuits. You can also buy from the popular cake and card stalls. (the next bric-a-brac stall will be in January) There are usually members of the Coxheath Parish Council there to chat to. **In December there will be the Christmas Food and Drink Raffle. Any prizes to Jean or Sandra. Thanks**
November Saturday Coffee Morning

There will be a Christmas Gifts Stall at the November coffee morning. If you have any unwanted new or 'good as new' gifts that you would like to donate please bring them to church on a Sunday beforehand and hand to Jean Bartholomew or Sandra Baker. Thank you

Saturday 19th November 3.00 – 4.00pm **Muddy Church at St Nicholas, Linton** Muddy Church is open to anyone and is 'Walking and Wondering' in the open air so weather appropriate clothing is a must.

Monday 21st November PCC Meeting

Members of the PCC are reminded this is the date of the next meeting.

Saturday 26th November 3.30pm – 6.00pm **Hunton Christmas Market**

This event takes place inside and outside St Mary's, Hunton. Also tea, cake, BBQ and a visit from Father Christmas

Sunday 27th November **Giving Sunday in aid of Mercy Ships**

The loose collection and a donation from church funds will be given to this charity. The Mercy Ships are the most efficient way of taking a state-of-the-art hospital to regions in the world where clean water, electricity, medical facilities and personnel are limited or non-existent.

Sunday 27th November **Soup on Sunday at approx. 12.15pm**

This will be held after the morning service and the usual refreshments. Please consider inviting someone else who might be on their own for Sunday lunch time. Thanks to all last month's soup makers and for generous donations. Last time we were able to donate through Mothers' Union £60 to HMP Rochester to help towards the cost of small Christmas gifts and cards. More information from Lesley 07814 817204

If anyone would like to help, and can offer to make a soup please let Margaret know on mob 07729 176762.

Tuesday 29th November 9.30am – 12noon **Community Coffee**

Morning at St Nicholas, Linton All welcome

Other News and Information

Suggestions for Giving Sunday Charities

Do you have any suggestions for our Giving Sundays? We are looking for 2 new charities which we will support for three years. If you do please fill in a nomination form which you will find at the back of the church and place the slip in an envelope which you will find by the forms. When completed please place in the box alongside the forms and envelopes. The final date for nominations is **Friday 11th November.**

Other Services in the Benefice

	9.30am Services
Sunday 6 th November	East Farleigh Morning Worship Hunton Holy Communion
Sunday 13 th November Remembrance Sunday	West Farleigh Please check the Benefice Linton website for service times East Farleigh this week Hunton
Sunday 20 th November	East Farleigh Holy Communion Hunton Morning Worship
Sunday 27 th November	West Farleigh Morning Worship Linton Holy Communion

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath

Last Wednesday of each month 12.00pm Holy Communion at Linton

Pastoral Support

We have a pastoral support team within the Benefice. If you or someone you know would like to speak to someone or have a visit from one of the team please phone 07437 544229 or if you would like more information or to contact on line please go to

<https://unitedbenefice.church/benefice-groups/pastoral-support-team/>

Prayer Chain

The Benefice has a prayer chain which prays confidentially for anyone who asks for prayer. The contact person for prayer requests or more information is Marian Simpson 743977

Group Details

For up to date details about group meetings please contact the following people:

Children's Work - Becky Parnham 07949 646865

Men's Prayer Group – Mike Marsh 07595 428639

Beacon Men – Steve Poole 297144

Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole 01622 297144 or

Lesley Marsh 07814 817204